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THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 29 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations of the States members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers on the Cambodian question, issued at Kuala Lumpur on 19 July 1991 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 24 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sedfrey A. ORDONEZ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/46/150.

ANNEX

Statement of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers on the Cambodian question, issued at Kuala Lumpur on 19 July 1991

1. The Foreign Ministers reviewed the situation in Cambodia and noted that, with the convening of the Meeting of the Supreme National Council (SNC) at Jakarta from 2 to 4 June 1991, important developments have taken place. They noted with satisfaction that the meeting of the SNC at Pattaya from 24 to 26 June 1991, convened and presided by His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, had generated a momentum in advancing the peace process towards a comprehensive political settlement.

2. They welcomed the Informal Meeting of the SNC at Beijing, on 17 July 1991, to which representatives of the United Nations Secretary-General and the two Co-Chairmen of the Paris Conference on Cambodia (PCC) were invited. They were greatly encouraged by the further progress made at this meeting, particularly the unanimous election of H.R.H. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as President of the SNC in a spirit of compromise and national reconciliation.

3. They believe that the SNC's decision to establish its headquarters in Phnom Penh should enable it to function, throughout the transitional period, as the unique legitimate body and source of authority in which the independence, sovereignty and unity of Cambodia is embodied, as stipulated in the Joint Statement of the Jakarta Informal Meeting on Cambodia of 10 September 1990.

4. The Foreign Ministers reiterated their support for the efforts of the Co-Chairmen of the PCC, the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and the United Nations Secretary-General, and encouraged them to continue assisting the Cambodian parties to reach agreement on the unresolved issues in the draft agreements based on the Permanent Five Framework Document. They expressed their hope that the two Co-Chairmen would be able to reconvene, as soon as feasible, the Paris Conference on Cambodia.

5. The Foreign Ministers strongly emphasized the need for national reconciliation among the Cambodian parties and called on them to intensify efforts to seek compromise among themselves to resolve the issues left outstanding after the consultations between the Co-Chairmen and the SNC members at Jakarta from 2 to 4 June 1991.

6. The Foreign Ministers look forward to the SNC assuming the Cambodian seat at the forty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly and welcomed the SNC's decision to send a delegation headed by H.R.H. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk to that session.

7. The Foreign Ministers emphasized that, at this crucial stage, it is important that all efforts be made to ensure that the momentum of the peace process be maintained. They noted, in particular, that it is necessary to take cognizance of the SNC, as it is now constituted and functioning, and to extend the required international support. Towards this end, the Foreign Ministers decided that all ASEAN countries would respond positively to the SNC's invitation to accredit representatives to the SNC.